REMARKS

This preliminary amendment is filed in conjunction with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE), in response to the Advisory Action mailed December 22, 2003.

Applicants respectfully submit, for the Examiner's consideration, amended independent claims 1, 17 and 21. It is submitted that these claims have been amended to provide further clarification regarding limitations already inherently contained therein. For example, claim 1 recites limitations that an external epoxy molding material is disposed exterior to the metallic heat sink such that the metallic heat sink, the second substrate and the first substrate are fully encapsulated by the external epoxy molding material. The Examiner is further directed to, among other places, FIG. 4 and page 8 of the present specification, as filed, which illustrates that the external epoxy molding material 413 fully encapsulates the internal metallic heat sink 411, and the substrates 401, 405 and 409. Therefore, it is submitted these amendments do not add any new matter but merely provide for recitation of limitations previously claimed herein as the claims are to be read in light of the specification.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in condition for allowance and that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. The Examiner is invited to contact the below-listed attorney if the Examiner believes that a telephone conference will advance the prosecution of this application.

Date: January 14, 2004

Timothy J. Bechen Registration No. 48,126

Respectfully submitted

VEDDER, PRICE, KAUFMAN & KAMMHOLZ, P.C. 222 N. LaSalle Street Chicago, IL 60601 (312) 609-7500 FAX: (312) 609-5005